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EVENTS

Jenks Center symposium on May 2 addresses artificial intelligence and healthy aging

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The Jenks Center will hold its annual symposium on May 2, beginning at 9 a.m. COURTESY PHOTO/MARK FLANNERY

The following was submitted by the Jenks Center:

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The Jenks Center, 109 Skillings Road, is very pleased to announce this year's symposium will take place on Friday, May 2, from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Sponsored jointly by the Winchester Council on Aging and the Winchester Seniors Association, the topic of this year's event is "Artificial Intelligence: What is it and How Can it Foster Healthy Aging and Independence."

This timely and stimulating discussion consists of an extraordinary panel of distinguished speakers who will address the meaningful and important realities of AI enabling older adults to live longer and more independently through significant advances of this technology.

Panelists include publisher, author and octogenarian Henry Quinlan who will provide a general overview of AI and its practical uses to help older adults age in place. He will also address possible negative consequences of artificial intelligence.

Dr. Mayam Fakhr Hosseni of the MIT Age Lab will highlight changing demographic trends and why AI is now becoming increasingly relevant in assisting older adults as well as MIT's mission of promoting 100 years of quality living.

She will also provide a case study of her research on the feasibility of social robots for older adults. Her presentation will include emerging AI technologies and relevant concerns around these technologies and research findings on smart home integration based on interview data.

Dr. Vijaya Kolachalama of Boston University will share his cutting-edge research utilizing AI for early and accurate detection of dementia as a recourse to the current diagnostic methods such as neuroimaging, lab tests and cognitive assessments that can be costly and unreliable caus delays in care.

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In addition, Kolachalama will articulate AI's role in expanding access to care, most notably in underserved areas and the potential of AI-powered tools for differential diagnosis.

The Jenks will offer an opportunity for vendors to exhibit information at its Resource Exhibition and vendor contributions will be used to fund additional cutting-edge programs.

The Symposium is free to the public and there will be a 20-minute break as well as free lunch enabling patrons time to meet with vendors.

Registration required via Jenks Center website.

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Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence hosting 23rd Trivia Bee

Winchester's brightest fifth graders and adults will gather soon to compete in a fierce trivia competition that will raise money for Winchester schools. The Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence (WFEE), a nonprofit that provides grants for Winchester's public schools, will host its 23rd annual trivia bee March 11

TAVISHI CHATTOPADHYAY | CORRESPONDENT

February 24, 2026

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Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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